

FACT SHEET

Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Draft SEIS)

Lead Agency and Responsible Official: Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC); Allen Fiksdal, EFSEC Manager, 925 Plum Street SE, Building 4, P.O. Box 43172; Olympia, WA 98504-3172; (360) 956-2152.

Abstract: Sagebrush Power Partners LLC proposes to construct and operate between 82 and 150 wind turbines that would generate between 181.5 and 246 megawatts (MW) of wind power in Kittitas County, Washington. The proposed project would occupy between 93 and 118 acres of land on either side of US 97 roughly halfway between Ellensburg and Cle Elum, Washington.

The project also includes: (1) approximately 19 miles of new roads and improvements to roughly 7 miles of existing roads, (2) approximately 23 miles of underground and 2 miles of overhead 34.5-kilovolt (kV) electrical power lines, (3) two new substations, (4) an approximately 5,000-square-foot operations and maintenance facility, and (5) up to nine permanent meteorological towers.

This Draft SEIS presents an analysis of off-site alternatives.

Proposal's Sponsor: Sagebrush Power Partners LLC (Applicant), a subsidiary of Zilkha Renewable Energy, Houston, Texas.

Date of Implementation: Construction activities would begin after all state and federal approvals are obtained, expected for the spring of 2005 and last approximately one year. The start of construction depends on the date the governor of Washington approves and executes the Site Certification Agreement for this project.

List of Possible Permits, Approvals, and Licenses: EFSEC is the sole non-federal agency authorized to permit the proposed project. For informational purposes, Table 1-2 of the Draft EIS lists the major state and local permitting requirements preempted by EFSEC, as well as federal requirements. Not all listed permits and approvals may be required. The EFSEC Site Certification Agreement would provide construction and operational requirements and all other relevant local and Washington state permits and approvals for the project.

Authors and Principal Contributors to EIS: The Draft SEIS was authored by EFSEC staff. The primary sources of information used to prepare the Draft SEIS are: the Application for Site Certification for the Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project submitted by Sagebrush Power Partners LLC to EFSEC (January 2003); the EFSEC Draft EIS for the Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project (December 2003); the Kittitas County Draft EIS for the Desert Claim Wind Power Project (December 2003); the Application for Site Certification for the Wild Horse Wind Power Project (March 2004); the Wild Horse Wind Power Project Off-Site Alternatives Analysis (May 2004); and the Wild Horse Wind Power Project Off-Site Alternatives Impact Analysis (June 2004).

Subsequent Environmental Review: Adjudicative Hearings
Final EIS

Date of Final Lead Agency Action: After EFSEC deliberates on the facts, testimony, and EIS contents, it will send a recommendation to the governor of the state of Washington to approve or deny the project (expected in the fall of 2004). The governor has 60 days to accept or reject the recommendation or to remand the recommendation to EFSEC for further investigation.

Contact for Additional Information:

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Location of Background Information: You may access this Draft SEIS and find additional information about the project on the EFSEC Web site at www.efsec.wa.gov. Copies of the Kittitas Valley Wind Power Project Application for Site Certification, EFSEC No. 2003-01, and the Draft EIS, and this Draft SEIS also are available for public review at the following locations:

Washington State Energy Facility Site
Evaluation Council
925 Plum Street SE, Building 4
Olympia, WA 98504-3172
(360) 956-2121

Carpenter Memorial (Cle Elum) Library
302 Pennsylvania Avenue
Cle Elum, WA 98922-1196
(509) 674-2313

Washington State Library
Joel M. Pritchard Branch
Point Plaza East
6880 Capitol Blvd.
Olympia, WA 98504-2460
(360) 704-5200

Ellensburg Public Library
209 North Ruby Street
Ellensburg, WA 98926
(509) 962-7250

Cost of Draft SEIS Copy to the Public: There will be no cost for the Draft SEIS.